## **ABSTRACT**

A substrate processing system 1 comprises: a processing tank 3 for processing substrates W with a processing liquid; a drying unit 6 disposed above the processing tank 3; and a carrying mechanism 8 for carrying the substrates W between the processing tank 3 and the drying unit 6. A processing gas supply line 21 for supplying a processing gas into the drying unit 6 and inert gas supply lines 24 and 25 for supplying an inert gas into the drying unit 6 are connected to the drying unit 6. A first discharge line for discharging an atmosphere purged from the drying unit 6 and a second discharge line 27 for forcibly exhausting the drying unit 6 are connected to the drying unit 6.

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